

Appl. No. 10/664,648
Amdt. Dated November 14, 2006
Reply to Office Action of August 14, 2006

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

487.1081

NOV 14 2006**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claim 10.

Please amend claims 1-5, 9 and 12 as indicated below.

Please add new claim 13.

This listing of claims below will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A device for driving a first gradient cable, the device comprising:
a guide tube at least partly surrounding at least a section of the first ~~gradient~~ driving cable;
a housing supporting the first ~~gradient~~ driving cable in its longitudinal direction;
a driving pinion meshingly engaging with a first portion of the first ~~gradient~~ driving cable; and
a first guide wheel supporting the ~~gradient~~ first driving cable at a level with the first portion of the first ~~gradient~~ driving cable, wherein the first guide wheel comprises a first bearing spindle defining a first guide wheel axis, the first bearing spindle being mounted on an eccentric for adjustment of the first bearing spindle with respect to the driving pinion.
2. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim 1, wherein the housing accommodates the first ~~gradient~~ driving cable, and wherein the first guide wheel is secured to the housing.
3. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim 1, further comprising a second ~~gradient~~ driving cable and a second guide wheel, the second ~~gradient~~ driving cable being driven by the driving pinion simultaneously with the first ~~gradient~~ driving cable, and the second guide wheel supporting the second ~~gradient~~ driving cable at the same level as the first guide wheel.

Appl. No. 10/664,648
Amdt. Dated November 14, 2006
Reply to Office Action of August 14, 2006

487.1081

4. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim 3, wherein the driving pinion includes a first ~~gradient~~ driving cable inlet side, a first ~~gradient~~ driving cable outlet side, a second ~~gradient~~ driving cable inlet side, and a second ~~gradient~~ driving cable outlet side, and the device further comprises a first and a second guide tube portion at least partially surrounding the first ~~gradient~~ driving cable and disposed, respectively, at the first ~~gradient~~ driving cable inlet side and the first ~~gradient~~ driving cable outlet side, and wherein the device further comprises a third guide tube portion and a fourth guide tube portion at least partially surrounding the second ~~gradient~~ driving cable and disposed, respectively, at the second ~~gradient~~ driving cable inlet side and the second ~~gradient~~ driving cable outlet side.

5. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim 1, wherein the driving pinion includes an inlet side and an outlet side and wherein the first ~~gradient~~ driving cable is at least partly surrounded by a first guide tube portion disposed at the inlet side and by a second guide tube portion disposed at the outlet side.

6. (Original) The device as recited in claim 5, wherein at least one of the first guide tube portion and the second guide tube portion includes a conical enlargement at an end proximal to the driving pinion.

7. (Original) The device as recited in claim 1, wherein the guide tube includes a supporting collar disposed in form-fitting engagement in a recess in the housing and supporting the guide tube in a longitudinal direction.

8. (Original) The device as recited in claim 1, wherein the housing includes a bearing bushing for pivotably receiving the first guide wheel.

9. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim 8, wherein the first guide wheel includes a ~~bearing spindle, defining a guide wheel axis and~~ a central circular collar extending

Appl. No. 10/664,648
Amdt. Dated November 14, 2006
Reply to Office Action of August 14, 2006

487.1081

radially with respect to the bearing spindle, said central collar engaging the first ~~gradient~~ driving cable.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Original) The device as recited in claim 1, wherein the housing includes an upper housing half and a lower housing half.

12. (Currently Amended) The device as recited in claim 1, wherein the method of constructing the housing is selected from the group consisting of ~~east~~ casting parts, die ~~east~~ casting parts, precision east casting parts, forming parts, sheet-metal ~~formed~~ forming parts and ~~construction~~ constructing parts.

13. (New) The device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a second guide wheel, the second guide wheel supporting the first driving cable essentially at a level with the first portion of the first driving cable, wherein the second guide wheel comprises a second bearing spindle defining a second guide wheel axis, the second bearing spindle being mounted on an eccentric for adjustment of the second bearing spindle with respect to the driving pinion.